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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/53/622)]

53/130. United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 40/131 of 13 December 1985, establishing the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations, and 50/156 of 21 December 1995, in which it decided that the Fund should also be used to assist representatives of indigenous communities and organizations to participate in the deliberations of the open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission on Human Rights established pursuant to Commission resolution 1995/32 of 3 March 1995[1] with the sole purpose of elaborating a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people, taking into consideration the draft declaration annexed to resolution 1994/45 of 26 August 1994 of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities of the Commission on Human Rights,[2]

Recalling also that one of the objectives of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People is to consider the establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people in the United Nations system,

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[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[2] See E/CN.4/1995/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1994/56, chap. II, sect. A.

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/20 of 9 April 1998,[3] as endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 1998/247 of 30 July 1998, in which the Commission decided to establish an open-ended inter-sessional ad hoc working group, from within existing overall United Nations resources, to meet for five working days prior to the fifty-fifth session of the Commission to elaborate and consider further proposals for the possible establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people in the United Nations system,

Taking note also of the provisions in Commission resolution 1998/20 regarding the participation of organizations of indigenous people in the ad hoc working group,

Recognizing the desirability of assisting organizations of indigenous people in participating in the ad hoc working group,

1. *Decides* that the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations should also be used to assist representatives of indigenous communities and organizations to participate in the deliberations of the open-ended inter-sessional ad hoc working group established by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 1998/20, as endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 1998/247;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States and to invite them to consider contributing to the Fund.

85th plenary meeting
9 December 1998

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[3] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.